

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 200 Greenbelt, Maryland 20770 phone: 301-459-7590, fax: 301-577-5575

internet: www.jsitel.com, e-mail: jsi@jsitel.com

June 19, 2015

Accepted / Filed

Via Hand Delivery

JUN 19 2015

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
OFFICE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: WC Docket No. 14-58

2015 ETC Annual Report of Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. Study Area Code 442112

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Mid-Plains"), JSI files the attached confidential and redacted versions of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules. Mid-Plains seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information. The redacted version is also being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System. In addition, attached is a letter requesting confidential treatment under Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of its Progress Report on its Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan as required by Section 54.313(a)(1).

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall JSI Vice President

301-459-7590

jkuykendall@jsitel.com

cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

No. of Copies rec'd 0+ List ABCDE

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459, 54.313(a)(1).

Echelon Building II, Suite 200 9430 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759 phone: 512-338-0473, fax: 512-346-0822 Eagandale Corporate Center, Suite 310 1380 Corporate Center Curve, Eagan, MN 55121 phone: 651-452-2660, fax: 651-452-1909 6849 Peachtree Dunwoody Road Bldg. B-3, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30328 phone: 770-569-2105, fax: 770-410-1608 547 South Oakview Lane Bountiful, UT 84010 phone: 801-294-4576, fax: 801-294-5124

^{1 47} C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

² Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Protective Order, DA 12-1857 rel. Nov. 16, 2012 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).



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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 JUN 19 2015

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary

Re:

WC Docket No. 14-58
2015 ETC Annual Report of Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
Study Area Code 442112
Request for Confidentiality

Dear Ms. Dortch:

John Staurulakis, Inc. ("JSI"), on behalf of its client Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Company") hereby requests, pursuant to Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Commission's rules, withholding from public inspection certain information contained in an attachment to the above referenced reporting requirement. The Company provides the following in support of its request, numbered consistent with the subparagraphs of Section 0.459(b).

- The information for which the Company is seeking confidential treatment is an attachment to the Company's annual reporting information pursuant to Sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules ("Report").³
- Pursuant to Section 54.313(a)(1), Rate-of-Return Eligible Telecommunications Carriers ("ETCs") must file with the Commission a Progress Report on its Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan ("Progress Report") which is contained in the attachment to the 2015 Report.⁴
- 3. The information contained in attachment for which the Company seeks the withholding from public inspection is the entirety of data pertaining to the Company's Five-Year Plan provided at FCC Form 481 Line 112 attachment. Information of this nature is confidential commercial information routinely withheld from public inspection.

^{1 47} C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459.

² 47 C.F.R. § 0.459(b)(1) through (9).

^{3 47} C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

^{4 47} C.F.R. §§ 54.313(a)(1).

With respect to identifying the degree to which the subject attachment concerns a service that is subject to competition, the information is of a financial and competitive nature regarding the provision of telecommunications services. The Line 112 attachment contains competitively sensitive information related to proposed improvements or upgrades and maintenance the Company's network.

In its March 5, 2013 Order, the FCC. The FCC specified that for rate-of-return carriers, the five-year plans "should describe the carrier's network improvement plan, which should provide greater visibility into current plans to extend broadband service to unserved locations in rate-of-return service territories." The Company's Progress Report updates this information as well as provides maps and detailed information as to whether or not network improvement objectives were achieved at the wire center level. Accordingly, because the Company is a rate-of-return carrier, it must file Progress Reports which contain proprietary, competitively sensitive information related to the Company's existing network including the specific locations of customers as well as describe proposed improvements or upgrades and maintenance of its network throughout its service area. Specifically, this information sets forth services provided by the Company over its existing network including specific locations of customers as well as planned network improvement and maintenance for the years 2015 through 2019 including project start and completion dates, population that will be impacted by the improvements and upgrades at the wire center level and projected capital costs associated with the improvements and upgrades and operating costs associated with maintaining the network including depreciation for investments that have already been made. As such, this information contains competitively sensitive information related to the Company's existing network as well as detailed plans at the wire center level for network upgrades and maintenance projected for the years 2015 through 2019.

With respect to identifying possible exposure to competitive harm, the information contained in the Line 112 attachment is information that is not customarily released to the public. This information is proprietary to the Company, is unique to the Company's serving territory and is only known to the Company and its authorized agents. If the Information is not protected, it would have economic value to potential competitors who would be able to target their marketing to specific customers. In a competitive telecommunications marketplace, this type of information is highly sensitive. If publicly disclosed, it would enable competitors to craft business plans that capitalize on their knowledge of the locations of the Company's customers which would place the Company at a competitive disadvantage.

⁵ See Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket 10-90 et al., Order, DA 13-332 (rel. Mar. 5, 2013) ("March 5, 2013 Order") at para 9 citing Section 54.202(a) (1) (ii).

- 6. With respect to steps the Company has taken to ensure against unauthorized disclosure of the information contained in the attachment, the Company is filing the attachment under seal. The Company uses the information contained in the Five-Year Plan to ensure that its customers continue to receive state-of-the-art high quality telecommunications and broadband services that the Company has been providing to them for many years as well as to satisfy mandatory reporting requirements and does not share the information for which protection is sought. The Company protects the secrecy of this information with a security protocol that ensures the information is not inadvertently disclosed or disseminated. Only directors, managers and employees with a direct need to know are authorized to access the information.
- 7. Any previous versions of this information are not publicly available.
- 8. Because the information is not routinely available, a need exists for maintaining the confidentiality of this information permanently.
- 9. Not applicable.

Based on the preceding, JSI respectfully requests on behalf of the Company that the Commission grant confidential treatment under Section 0.459 to Company's Five-Year Plan provided at FCC Form 481 Line 112 attachment.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall JSI Vice President

301-459-7590

jkuykendall@jsitel.com

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	ervice Quality Improvement Reporting			FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	442112		
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS F	RURAL TEL	
<020>	Program Year	2016		
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt		
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420	ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midpla	ains.org	
<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(ye:	s/no) O	
<111>	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	(ye:	s/no) O O	
<112>	If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service. Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your of CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.	ompany is a	442112tx112.pdf	
	Please select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confir that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five service quality improvement plan pursuant to §54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.	-year		Name of Attached Document
<113>	Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets		Yes	
<114>	Report how much universal service (USF) support was received		Yes	
<115>	How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to impro	ve service qualit	y Yes	
<116>	How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to improve	rove service cov	erage Yes	
<117>	How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and how support was used to improve		165	-
<118>	Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.		Not Applicable	

	vice Outage Reporting (Voice) ection Form		FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	442112	
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL	
<020>	Program Year	2016	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.	

<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> rhurt@midplains.org

<220>

<a>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<b3></b3>	<b4></b4>	<c1></c1>	<c2></c2>	<d></d>	<e></e>	<₽	<₽>	<h></h>
NORS Reference Number	Outage Start Date	Outage Start Time	Outage End Date	Outage End Time	Number of Customers Affected	Total Number of Customers	911 Facilities Affected (Yes / No)	Service Outage Description (Check all that apply)	Did This Outage Affect Multiple Study Areas (Yes / No)	Service Outage Resolution	Preventative Procedures
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THE COUNTY AND THE	ce Offerings Including Voice Rate Data lection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0865/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 Naty 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	442112
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org
<701> <702>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date 1/1/2015 Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

	939	43		Residential Local Service Rate	403>		Mandatory Extended Area	
State	Exchange (ILEC)	SAC (CETC)	Rate Type	Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Service Charge	Total per line Rates and Fe
10-1-2		-					v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v	
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				- See at	tached worksheet			
					NOTION WOTHOUGH			4
	S-111/4003 PD 11 - 171179 411.07 7 7							-
1 7/12/10		1						1
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(710) Broadband Price Offerings Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819	Series Series
THE BUILDING TO RESERVE SHEET	suly 2013	

<010>	Study Area Code	442112
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org

State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rate and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached (select
			See attac	hed			*) ()	
		+-	worksheet -					

	erating Companies lection Form		POC Form 481 DMS Control No. 3060-0986/CMB Control No. 3060-0819 389/2018
<010>	Study Area Code		442112
<015>	Study Area Name		MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL
<020>	Program Year		2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person	USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt
<035>	Contact Telephone Nun	nber - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address -	Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	
<811>	Holding Company	Not Applicable	
<812>	Operating Company	Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc	

Affillates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation
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- 100 XII 200	2	

	bal Lands Reporting Jection Form	FCC Form.481 OM8 Centrol No. 3060-0986/DM8 Control No. 3060-0 Jety 2013	819
<010> <015> <020> <030> <035> <039>	Study Area Code Study Area Name Program Year Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line < Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line < Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves		
<920>	Tribal Government Engagement Obligation		
	company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes	Name of Attached Document	
demons	rm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920, strates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to 3(a)(9) includes:	Select Yes or No or Not Applicable	
<921>	Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.		
<922>	Feasibility and sustainability planning;		
<923>	Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;		
<924>	Compliance with Rights of way processes		
<925>	Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements		
<926>	Compliance with Facilities Siting rules		
<927>	Compliance with Environmental Review processes		

<928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
<929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

12 19 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	o Terrestrial Bacidiaul Reporting lection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	442112
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org
<1120>	Please confirm whether terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g) (Yes, No).	
<1130>	Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).	kbps

Lifeline	erms and Condition for Lifeline Customers lection Form		FCC Form 481
<010>	Study Area Code	442112	
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL	
<020>	Program Year	2016	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <	030> 8066684420 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <	030> rhurt@midplains.org	
<1210>	Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans	442112tx1210.pdf	
			Name of Attached Document
<1220>	Link to Public Website	TP	
or the w	check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, ebsite listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to E(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must report:		
<1221>	Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,		
<1222>	Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,		
<1223>	Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.		

(2000) Pr	ice Cop Carrier Additional Documentation	CCC Form 483
1-67 (650 St. 2)	ection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
52550 17960	Rote-of-Return Curriers offiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Cortiers	Nafy 2023
(SISSIDSUM)	Market Market Resident Commission of the Market State of the Market State of the Market State of the Market St	
<010>	Study Area Code	
<015>	Study Area Name	442112
<020>	Program Year	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	2016
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	RICK HUTE
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	8000084420 EXC.
		rnurtemidplains.org
PROPERTY.		
Select the	appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as	s a recipient of incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and
Connect	America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The inform	rmation reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.
	Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting	
<2010>	2nd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)i)	
<2011a>	3rd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii)	
	86 No. 12 (2006) Restaura 12	
<2011b>	Attachment {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)ii}	1
		Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information
		STATE OF THE STATE
25.5	Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))	
<2012>		
<2013>		
<2014>		
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Calculation (47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4))	
	Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support (47 CFR § 54.313(d))	
<2016>		
	Courses Associate Phone II Benevation (47 CPB C F4 249(a))	
<2017>	Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e)) 3rd year Broadband Service Certification	
<2018>		the state of the s
<2019>		
<2020>	Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on lin	ine 2021 contains the required information
	pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support si	shall provide the number, names, and
	addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing	g access to broadband service in the
	preceding calendar year.	
-2024	Interior Bernard Community Analysis Institution	
<2021>	Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions	
		Name of Attached Document(s) Listing Required Information

(300ê) A	ste Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation	REDACTED FOR PUBLIC IN	GPECTION FOR Form 455
	ection Form		CIMB Control No. 3050-9986/ONB Control No. 3060-0819
Service .			Naji 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	442112	
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL	
<020>	Program Year	2016	-10 -11 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 -
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org	
CHECK	he boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursua CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that ti	nt to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring he information reported on this form and in the documents attack	
		442112tx3010.pdf	
		60	
(3010)	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan		lis .
	Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i))		
		Name of Attached Document Listing Required Inform	ation
	Please check this box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line : § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), the carrier shall provide the number, names, and addriproviding access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.		7
		442112tx3012.pdf	1
			I
(3012)	Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii))		
		AND AND SHOWN	
		Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	20
(3013)	is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2))	(Yes/No)	
(3014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	(Yes/No)	
Diagea	check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 301	7 contains the required information surrought to 5 E4 212/6/	2) compliance manifest
		, contains the required information pursuant to 9 54.5 (5(1))	
(3015)	Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for		(₹)
(2016)	Telecommunications Borrowers)	at Flores	
(2070)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Ca	Marie Control of the	
		442112tx3017.pdf	
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual		
	report and all required documentation		
		Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	20
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?	(Yes/No)	
	If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to		
	confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains		
(3019)	Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a fo	ormat comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunication	
		\$ 15 B	\equiv
(3020)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of C	ash Flows	
(3021)	Management letter and audit opinion issued by the independent certified po	thic accountant that performed the company's financial auxilit	
1,000,000,000		and accountant that performed the company's intancial accide	
	If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2),		
	contains:		
(2022)			the state of the s
(3022)	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a		
	format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications		
	Borrowers.		VEC 0.17
(2022)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified		
(3023)	public accountant		
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.		
	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Ca	sh Flows	4
- 13		10.1 d. 10.1 d	
	I		I
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information		ı
MATERIAL SECTION AND ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRAT	**************************************		1
	entre et et		. 1
	<u></u>	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	TATE 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 1

(5000) R	ate Of Return Cerrier Additional Dycumentation (Continued)	REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FICTORIALES
Cata Col	octori Prima	Congressions, Sour-const/Online currentles, 3000-0018 ANY 2015
<010>	Study Area Code	442112
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	Rick Hurt 8066684420 ext.
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Certification - Reporting Carrier . FCC Form 451 Data Collection Form . 3060-0985/0468 Control No. 3060-0918			
<010>	Study Area Code	442112	
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL	
<020>	Program Year	2016	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support accidents; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.		
Name of Reporting Carrier:		
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date	
Printed name of Authorized Officer:		
Title or position of Authorized Officer:		
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:		
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:	

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form Aday 2012				
<010>	Study Area Code	442112		
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL		
<020>	Program Year	2016		
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt		
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.		
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org		

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

certify that (Name of Agent) <u>Dee Dee Longenecker</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I so certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized gent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.				
Name of Authorized Agent: Dee Dee Longenecker				
Name of Reporting Carrier: MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL				
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	Date: 06/18/2015			
Printed name of Authorized Officer: Rick Hurt				
Title or position of Authorized Officer: CEO/General Manager				
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 8066684420 ext.				
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 442112	Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2015			

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF	or LI Recipients on B	lehalf of Reportin	g Carrier
, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal so the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge			
Name of Reporting Carrier: MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL			
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: Dee Dee Longenecker			
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: CERTIFIED ONLINE		Date:	06/18/2015
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: Dee Dee Longenecker	- 100000	X0 20 30.00.00.70 ==	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent Manager - Regulatory Affairs			
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: 5123380473 ext.235			
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 442112 Filing Due Date for this form:	07/01/2015		

Attachments

ATTACHMENT - LINE 112

Five-Year Network Improvement Plan and Progress Report

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY

Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Study Area Code: 442112

Response to Line 510 - Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules Compliance - Voice and Broadband

In establishing this certification in its 2005 ETC Order,¹ the FCC found that an ETC must make "a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers." The FCC found that for wireless ETCs, compliance with CTIA's Consumer Code for Wireless Service would satisfy this requirement and that the sufficiency of other commitments would be considered on a case-by-case basis. In this context, the FCC stated, "to the extent a wireline or wireless ETC applicant is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law, compliance with such laws may meet our requirement."

Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Cooperative") hereby certifies that its voice service complies with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules under the Texas Administrative Code, Title 16, Part II, as established by the Public Utility Commission of Texas. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) filing a Local Exchange Tariff which discloses rates, terms and conditions of service to customers pursuant to Subchapter J requirements in Sections 26.201-26.230; (2) adherence to state consumer

¹ Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46 (rel. Mar. 17, 2005) ("2005 ETC Order").

² Id. at para. 28.

³ Id. The FCC noted that under the CTIA Consumer Code, wireless carriers agree to: "(1) disclose rates and terms of service to customers; (2) make available maps showing where service is generally available; (3) provide contract terms to customers and confirm changes in service; (4) allow a trial period for new service; (5) provide specific disclosures in advertising; (6) separately identify carrier charges from taxes on billing statements; (7) provide customers the right to terminate service for changes to contract terms; (8) provide ready access to customer service; (9) promptly respond to consumer inquiries and complaints received from government agencies; and (10) abide by policies for protection of consumer privacy." Id. at n. 71.

⁴ Id. at n. 72.

protection requirements governing telephone providers as identified in Subchapter B, in Sections 26.21-26.37; and (3) service quality standards requirements as identified in Subchapter C, Sections 26.51-26.57. In addition, the Cooperative complies with numerous federal consumer protection standards including, but not limited to: (1) Truth-in-Billing Rules outlined in 47 CFR § 64.2401; and (2) compliance with Federal CPNI rules, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy.

For its broadband service, Cooperative hereby certifies that while there are no applicable state broadband service quality standards and consumer protection rules yet established under the Texas Administrative Code by the Public Utility Commission of Texas, the Cooperative discloses rates, terms and conditions on its public web site and the Cooperative complies with applicable federal and state customer protection standards generally applicable to all businesses operating in Texas. In addition, the Cooperative adheres to consumer protection obligations for broadband services under federal law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: public disclosure of accurate information regarding network management practices, performance, and commercial terms of broadband internet access services; as a means of providing sufficient information for consumers to make informed choices regarding use of such services, and for content, application, service and device providers to develop, market, and maintain internet offerings as specified in F.C.C. 47 C.F.R. Part 8 §8.3. The Company furthermore will comply with all requirements set forth in the 2015 Open Internet Order when it becomes effective.

Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Study Area Code: 442112

Response to Line 610 - Ability to Function in Emergency Situations

for Voice and Broadband

Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Cooperative") hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Part 54, Subpart C, §54.202(a)(2)¹ and the Texas Administrative Code. The Cooperative's network is designed to remain functional in emergency situations without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as required by Section 54.202(a)(2). The Cooperative can change call routing translations as needed to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Changing call routing translations also allows the Cooperative to manage traffic spikes throughout its network, as emergency situations require.

Specifically, the Cooperative is able to function under emergency operations in accordance with Public Utility Commission of Texas Substantive Rules §26.51 Reliability of Operations of Telecommunications Providers and §26.52 Emergency Operations which include obligations for continuity of service and emergency operations planning and service provision capability for dominant carriers. Any central office not equipped with permanently installed standby generators contains as a minimum four hours of battery reserve without voltage falling below the level required for proper operation of all equipment. In addition, all central offices without installed

¹ Section 54.202(a)(2) requires ETCs that are designated by the Commission to "demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations."

emergency power facilities have a mobile power unit available which can be delivered and connected on short notice.

The Cooperative's standby generators and battery back-up equipment support both voice and broadband network equipment in the event of an emergency situation.

BANKS ON SHAP BRIEFS	(700) Price Offerings Including Voles Rate Date Data Collection Form Data Collection Form				
7000		3uly 2013,			
<010>	Study Area Code	442112			
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL			
<020>	Program Year	2016			
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt			
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.			
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org			

1/1/2015

<703>

<701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date
<702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge

State	Exchange (ILEC)	SAC (CETC)	Rate Type	Residential Local Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Total per line Rates and Fee
TX	Bean	SAC (CETC)	PR PR	14.25	0.0	0.66	3.5	18.41
TX	Cleta		FR	14.75	0.0	0.68	3.5	18.93
TX	Elkins		PR	14.25	0.0	0.66	3.5	18.41
TX	Goodnight		FR	14.25	0.0	0.66	3.5	18.41
TX	Gurley		FR	14.25	0.0	0.66	3.5	18.41
TX	Kress		PR	14.25	0.0	0.66	3.5	18.41
TX	Redmon		PR	14.25	0.0	0.66	3.5	18.41
TX	Silverton		PR.	13.1	0.0	0.65	4.6	18.35
TX	Umbarger		PR	14.75	0.0	0.68	3.5	18.93
TX	Vigo Park		FR	14.25	0.0	0.66	3.5	18.41
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			374.					

(710) Broadband Price Offerings

Data Collection Form

Sulfa Control No. 2000-0985/OMB Control No. 2000-0819
Sulfy 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442112
<015>	Study Area Name	MID-PLAINS RURAL TEL
<020>	Program Year	2016
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Rick Hurt
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8066684420 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	rhurt@midplains.org

State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rates and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service -Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached (select)
TX	All	49.95	0.0	49.95	6.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No usage allowance
TX	A11	69.96	0.0	69.96	10.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No usage allowance
TX	A11	69.95	0.0	69.95	10.0	5.0	999999.0	Other, No usage allowance
TX	A11	79.5	0.0	79.5	10.0	10.0	999999.0	Other, No usage allowance
TX	A11	85.5	0.0	85.5	15.0	10.0	999999.0	Other, No usage allowance
TX	All	91.5	0.0	91.5	20.0	10.0	999999.0	Other, No usage allowance
TX	All	59.95	0.0	59.95	10.0	2.0	999999.0	Other, No usage allowance
тх	A11	84.5	0.0	84.5	15.0	5.0	999999.0	Other, No usage allowance
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Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Study Area Code: 442112

Rates, Terms and Conditions for Lifeline Service

(Response to Form 481, Line 1210)

Local exchange service rates and charges as specified below are for basic local exchange service, including Tone Dialing Service, and facilities only. The rates for other ancillary services not specifically shown below are presented in Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative's tariff(s) on file with the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Unless otherwise specified, the rates and charges quoted below are for a period of one month, payable in advance and provide unlimited flat rate calling within the local exchange calling scope.

Residential Local Exchange Access Line Rates: (1)(2)

Exchange Name	R	-1 Rate	Res. EAS Charge	
Bean	\$	14.25	\$	3.50
Cleta	\$	14.75	\$	3.50
Elkins	\$	14.25	\$	3.50
Goodnight	\$	14.25	\$	3.50
Gurley	\$	14.25	\$	3.50
Kress	\$	14.25	\$	3.50
Redmon	\$	14.25	\$	3.50
Silverton	\$	13.10	\$	4.60
Umbarger	\$	14.75	\$	3.50
Vigo Park	\$	14.25	\$	3.50

⁽¹⁾ Above listed fees do not include mandatory taxes, fees and surcharges, including, but not limited to Texas Universal Service Fund charges, 9-1-1 fees, and municipal franchise fees.

⁽²⁾ Qualified Lifeline customers are eligible for Lifeline credits or discounts as outlined in the attached Lifeline tariff.

MID-PLAINS RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. TULIA, TEXAS

SECTION 4 5th Revised Page 13 4th Revised Page 13

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

V. LIFELINE PROGRAM

The Lifeline Program is a retail local service offering designed to make telephone service available at reduced rates to qualifying low-income customers.

A. General

- 1. A qualifying low-income customer subscribing to the Lifeline Program shall receive federal and state reductions to their monthly tariffed residential local exchange access line rate. When a Lifeline customer subscribes to a package of services, those same reductions will apply to that portion of the package rate that is for basic network service.
- 2. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a customer who is otherwise eligible for the Lifeline Program from obtaining and using telecommunications equipment and services designed to aid such customer in utilizing qualifying telecommunications services.
- 3. Lifeline Programs reductions do not apply to surcharges, taxes, long distance services, 976 and other information custom calling features. Customers may obtain these services, where available, at their discretion.
- 4. The Lifeline Program rate reductions do not apply to service connection charges; however, customers eligible for the Tribal Link-Up Program may receive a 50% reduction not to exceed \$100.00 on applicable service connection charges as provided in Section 5 of this tariff.

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS EFFECTIVE

APR 2 '12 CONTROL# <u>TC. NO. 40225</u> TARIFF CLERK

Issued By: Brent A. Kennedy, General Manager

Box 300, Tulia, TX 79088

MID-PLAINS RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. TULIA, TEXAS

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MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

V. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

A. General (Continued)

- 6. The Cooperative may not disconnect the service of a Lifeline Program customer for the non-payment of toll charges. However, the Cooperative reserves the right to implement toll blocking, at no charge, if the customer incurs a significant balance of unpaid toll bills. The Cooperative will inform the customer, by direct mail, of this change to their service due to the customer's non-payment of toll charges. Upon the customer's payment of all outstanding toll charges, the Cooperative shall remove mandatory toll blocking at no charge.
- 7. Upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program, a customer will be offered a subscription, at no charge, to toll blocking service (in exchanges where technically available) which denies the customer access to the long distance telecommunications network; however, the customer is under no obligation to accept the subscription to toll blocking.
- The Lifeline Program rate reductions will not be available on a retroactive basis unless approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas or the Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA).
 - B. Designated Lifeline Program Services.

The Cooperative shall offer consumers qualifying for Lifeline Service the voice telephony services or functionalities enumerated in 47 Code of Federal Regulations §54.101(a) (relating to Supported Services for Rural, Insular and High Cost Areas).

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXA\$

EFFECTIVE

APR 2 '12 CONTROL# <u>TC. NO. 40225</u> TARIFF CLERK

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MID-PLAINS RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. TULIA, TEXAS

SECTION 4

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MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

V. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

C. Eligibility Requirement

1. Qualifying Low-income (Eligible) Customer Criteria

The applicant must certify that their annual household income is at or below 150% of the annual federal poverty guidelines, be an eligible resident of Tribal lands, or participate in, or have a person or child who resides in the customer household who participates in, a program identified in Chapter 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations § 54.409 and in P.U.C. Substantive Rule 26.412 regarding consumer qualification for Lifeline.

The Lifeline Program rate reductions will be provided to each eligible customer. The Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA) will provide a list of eligible customers to the Cooperative each month.

2. Obligations of the Customer

- a. Customers whose annual household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines or who participate in Federal Public Housing Assistance or Low-Income Home Energy Assistance programs may self-enroll for the Lifeline Program benefits by completing an application form and returning it to LIDA. LIDA will send a blank application upon customer's request. LIDA can be reached at 1-866-4LITEUP. Current customers receiving Lifeline benefits will be subject to the Lifeline Program automatic enrollment procedures as provided by the LIDA unless they provide written request to the LIDA to be excluded from the Lifeline Program.
- b. A customer who is eligible for the Lifeline Program but does not have telephone service at the time the LIDA provides its eligibility list to the Cooperative, shall be responsible for initiating a request for the Lifeline Program from the Cooperative.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS EFFECTIVE

APR 2 '12 CONTROL# <u>TC. NO. 40225</u> TARIFF CLERK

Issued By: Brent A. Kennedy, General Manager Box 300, Tulia, TX 79088 MID-PLAINS RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

SECTION 4

TULIA, TEXAS

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MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

V. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

C. Eligibility Requirement (Continued)

- Obligations of the Cooperative
- a. LIDA will provide a list of eligible customers to the Cooperative on a monthly basis. Upon receipt of the list, the Cooperative shall begin reduced billing for those customers within 30 days.

4. Discontinuance of Service

- a. Discontinuance of Lifeline Discounts for customers automatically enrolled: The eligibility period for automatically enrolled customers is the length of their enrollment in Texas Health and Human Services Commission (THHSC) benefits plus a period of 60 days for renewal. Automatically enrolled customers will have an opportunity to renew their THHSC benefits or self-enrollment with LIDA upon the expiration of their automatic enrollment.
- b. Discontinuance of Lifeline Discounts for customers who have self-enrolled: Individuals not receiving benefits through THHSC programs, but who have met Lifeline income qualifications, are eligible to receive the Lifeline Discount for seven months, which includes a period of 60 days during which the customer may renew their eligibility with LIDA for an additional seven months.

D. Deposit and Credit Requirements

- 1. The Cooperative shall be prohibited from charging a service deposit in order to initiate the Lifeline Program if the eligible customer voluntarily elects to receive toll blocking.
- The Cooperative may charge a service deposit if the eligible customer denies subscription to toll blocking upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program.
- 3. In instances where the Cooperative may require a service deposit, the same credit verification procedures and deposit regulations used for all applicants who apply for service with the Cooperative are also applicable to eligible customers for the Lifeline Program.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
APPROVED

Issued by:

Danny R. Johnson, Manager Box 300 Tulia, TX 79088 NOV - 2'07 DOCKET 34853

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MID-PLAINS RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

TULIA, TEXAS

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MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

V. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

E. Service Connection Charges

- 1. Service connection charges do not apply to eligible customers with existing, qualifying service converting to the Lifeline Program.
 - 2. Service connection charges do apply when:
- a. Existing eligible customers request additional non-qualifying services at the time Lifeline Program reduced billing is initiated.
- b. New customers (those without existing local exchange access service) eligible for the Lifeline Program establish service.
- c. Customers make subsequent moves or changes after initial connection to the Lifeline Program.
- 3. In instances where service connection charges apply, customers qualifying for the Lifeline Program may qualify for the Tribal Link-Up Program and may be eligible to receive reduction in the applicable service connection charges as provided in Section 5 of this tariff.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
EFFECTIVE

APR 2 '12 CONTROL# <u>TC. NO. 40225</u> TARIFF CLERK

Issued By: Brent A. Kennedy, General Manager Box 300, Tulia, TX 79088 T

MID-PLAINS RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

SECTION 4

TULIA, TEXAS

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MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

- V. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)
 - F. Lifeline Program Rate Reduction
 - 1. Implementation

The Cooperative shall provide reduced billing to all Lifeline Program eligible customers within its service area in accordance with the Commission's Substantive Rules.

In instances where a customer inquires about participation in the Lifeline Program, the Cooperative shall provide contact information for LIDA

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Issued by:

Danny R. Johnson, Manager Box 300 Tulia, TX 79088 MID-PLAINS RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

SECTION 4

TULIA, TEXAS

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MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

V. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

C. Lifeline Program Rate Reduction (Continued)

2. Amounts

The Cooperative shall apply Lifeline Program rate reductions, per eligible customer, as described below. The combined N discounts shall not result in a rate of less than zero charged for the N customer's basic local service.

Monthly
Rate Reduction
up to \$9.25

\$0.63

- a. Federal Lifeline support amount per month or equal to the support amount as directed by the Federal Communications Commission in Chapter 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations § 54.403 regarding Lifeline support.
- b. Maximum state reduction to up to \$3.50 Residential local Exchange Access Line Rate.
- c. Area discount. Consistent with P.U.C. Subst. R. 26.404, at such date the Cooperative increases its residential access line rate(s), the Cooperative shall give qualifying low-income consumers an area discount composed of up to 25% of any actual rate increase amount.

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Issued By: Rick Hurt, General Manager Box 300, Tulia, TX 79088 PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS APPROVED / EFFECTIVE

Dec. 1, 2014 <u>Tariff No. 43724</u> TARIFF CLERK

Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Study Area Code: 442112

Response to Line 3010 – Milestone Certification (47 CFR §54.313(f)(1)(i))

Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. hereby certifies that throughout 2014, it took reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, and currently, it is taking reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream broadband service at with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to comparable offerings in urban areas and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time. If a request for broadband service at actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream is unreasonable, and offering broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream is reasonable, the Company offers broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream.

Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (SAC 442112)

Response to Line 3012 - List of Community Anchor Institutions to Which the ETC Newly Began Providing Service

The FCC's USF/ICC Transformation Order requires a listing of community anchor institutions¹ to which the ETC newly began providing broadband service. In 2014, as Appendix C to its original Five-Year Network Improvement Plan, Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("MPRTC") provided a list of all community anchor institutions to which it provided broadband service. However, MPRTC has identified three anchor institutions that were not reported in its 2014 report. Since that time, MPRTC has not begun providing any additional community anchor institutions with access to broadband service. Therefore, while MPRTC has no newly served community anchor institution information to report for calendar year 2014, the below-listed anchor institutions have had broadband access for some time, and should be considered as a part of the base-line community anchor institution list on record for MPRTC.

Number	Name	Address		
1	Texas DOT-Silverton	1301 Lone Star St. Silverton, TX, 79257		
2	Nance Ranch	3450 E. Nance RD Canyon TX, 79015		
3	Palo Duro Canyon State Park	11450 Park RD Canyon, TX, 790105		

The FCC has defined community anchor institutions in Section 54.5 of its Rules as "schools, libraries, health care providers, community colleges, other institutions of higher education, and other community support organizations and entities."

ATTACHMENT - LINE 3017 ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY